[illegible] Sep. 28. 1745

1493.e.17. (64.)

2

A GENUINE
INTERCEPTED LETTER,

FROM

Father *PATRICK GRAHAM*,

K

Almoner and Confeſſor to the PRETENDER's SON,
in *Scotland*,

TO

Father *BENEDICK YORKE*,

Titular Biſhop of *St. David's*, at *Bath*.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.

LONDON:
Printed for M. COOPER, in *Paternoſter Row*.

(Price Three Pence.)

INTERCEPTED LETTER, *&c.*

[illegible]

THAT I may execute the Commands you gave me about four Months ago, to write you the Success of our Expedition to *Scotland*, with my Opinion of our Prince, and those about him, I can now, with the most Pleasure assure you, that we are actually landed in *Scotland*, that hitherto our Enterprize seems to be guided by the immediate Hand of Providence, and that the Prospect before us seems adequate to all the Success that has hitherto crowned his R——l H——s Attempts.

Immediately upon our landing the Prince of *W——* kneel'd down with the utmost Transport, and kiss'd the Earth with great Humility, then lifting up his Eyes to Heaven, he implored the Aid and Blessing of the Mother of *God*, and St. *Winifred*, (for whom he has always had a particular Devotion;) after that, he order'd his Standard to be set up; and all his Followers, to the Number of about Two Hundred being round him, he admitted me first, and then the principal Lords and Gentlemen, to the Honour of kissing his Hand.

Since that time every thing has happened as the most Sanguine could expect; the Usurper's forces fly before us, and in every Skirmish, the Hand of the Blessed Virgin is visibly with us, and of consequence Success attends us. Which Success, his R——l H——s, and I too, attribute entirely to his wearing constantly about his Neck a small Medal, (which his Holiness caused to be struck for the Purpose, and sent him a little while before we embark'd for *Scotland*.) On one Side of which is represented his R—— H——s leading *Britannia*

B *Repentant*

Repentant to kiss the Pope's Toe: His Holiness from his Throne extends his open Arms to receive her; round the Margin of that Side is read this Sentence:

Pereunt et Imputantur.

On the Reverse is the Figure of the Prince of *Wales*, with a lifted Sword ready to stab *Heresy*, who lies sprawling [illegible] with the Cap of Liberty [illegible] on one side; and the Electoral Cap lying [illegible] ther; and round the Margin is read,

Immedicabile Vulnus Ense recidendum.

His Holiness has also sent the Die of the Medal, and we intend as soon as 'tis convenient, to strike Numbers of them, to disperse among [illegible] *English* Constitution.

Repentant to kiſs the Pope's Toe: His Holineſs from his Throne extends his open Arms to receive her; round the Margin of that Side is read this Sentence:

Perjurat et Inventa eſt.

On the Reverſe is the Figure of the Prince of *Wales*, with a lifted Sword ready to ſtab Hereſy, who lies ſprawling at his Feet, with the Cap of Liberty fallen off, on one ſide; and the Electoral Cap lying among Ruins on the other: and round the Margin is read,

Immedicabile Vulnus enſe recidendum.

His Holineſs has alſo ſent the Die of the Medal, and we intend as ſoon as 'tis convenient, to ſtrike Numbers of them, to diſperſe among the ſteady Friends, to the old *Engliſh* Conſtitution.

I can't enough applaud his R---l H----'s Zeal for the Catholic Religion: it is conſtantly breaking out upon all Occaſions, (and indeed ſometimes more than I could wiſh.) But when I reprove him for it in Private, he promiſes to be more upon his Guard. Yet as his Tongue always ſpeaks the Language of his Heart, the Moment any Occaſion offers, he can never omit declaring his Deteſtation of Hereſy; and I queſtion, whether the immediate quiet Poſſeſſion of all his Father's Kingdoms could bring him to ſign a Declaration, that had in it even a Promiſe of Toleration. If you ſee any ſuch come out, you may be certain 'tis the forged Work of ſome of his Proteſtant Followers, without his Knowledge or Conſent. He has ſome Heretick Noblemen with him: and 'tis wonderful to hear how his R---l H----s, whenever they talk to him of his Temporal Affairs, makes the Diſcourſe always turn to ſome religious Point, wherein he never fails to ſhew them their Errors, and ſometimes with Succeſs, for I have already reconciled Lord *George Murray*, (a Young Nobleman of the greateſt Honour) and Mr. *Cameron* to the Boſom of our Holy Mother. His R---l H----s's uſual Arguments are, that no Man can be a good Subject to his Father, that does not believe in the Queen of Heaven, (for ſo he always ſtiles the Bleſſed Virgin:) and that no Perſon ſhall ever be of his Councils, that is not of his Communion. He is well furniſhed with all that can be ſaid for our Faith: His Father has train'd him up to it from his Cradle, and I believe that holy King would

SEP

would rather hear his Son was beheaded upon *Tower-Hill*, than that he had even promiſed the leaſt Toleration to Proteſtants. His laſt Words to him at parting were (for I was by) *Go fight for your Religion, and my Kingdoms, and remember,* Charles, *there is no Faith to be kept with Hereticks.*

Oh! my Lord what a glorious Scene opens to my View, ſhall the Croſs once more be erected in *Britain?* Shall our Altars be again exalted? Shall our Churches be reſtored to us? Shall our Abbey-Lands revert to their right Owners? Shall the Clergy have their due Honours and Weight? Shall we ruſh like a Torrent upon the Laity, and make 'em know they are our People, and the Sheep of our Paſture?

Your Lordſhip well knows, that all the Rent-Rolls and Surveys of our former Poſſeſſions (preſerved from the Impiety of the Times) are ſafe, and kept in good Order at *Doway,* and *St. Omers,* and ready to follow our Succeſſes here. His Majeſty has conſtantly allowed a Salary to ſome of the Reverend Fathers at each Place, to preſerve 'em for better Days. — I have often peruſed 'em with Tears, and ſurely our Church met no where with more dutiful Children, than this Apoſtate Iſland once produced. --- And were we once more Maſters, the ſame Yoke is ſtill in being, and might ſoon be made to fit their Necks again.

In this Affair I muſt do my Royal Maſter's Zeal ample Juſtice - - - He has often declared to myſelf in the moſt ſolemn Manner, that the great Cauſe of the Reſtitution of Abbey-Lands ſhall never ſo much as come into Litigation; but that He will himſelf, as He is above the Law, take that Buſineſs under his own peculiar Cognizance; and that our Evidences and Records ſhall never be controverted, but that we ſhall have all the Reparation poſſible, for our long Deprivation and tedious Sufferings. His Royal Word ſhall declare our Right, and his Royal Power put us into immediate Poſſeſſion. But whatever Lands are in Catholick Hands (which they muſt part with) ſhall be fully made up to them out of the Eſtates of the Heretical Rebels. Of this I am commanded to order you to inform all that you dare truſt, with the important Secret. But I truſt in the Bleſſed Virgin, that the Time is near at hand,

when

when all theſe Kingdoms ſhall hear the ſame Things pronounced from the Throne itſelf. Before I end this Letter, I can't help acquainting your Lordſhip, that I am appointed Abbot of *Reading*; I do it my Lord, becauſe I think you will be glad to hear that my conſtant and indefatigable Labours in the Cauſe are not forgotten. For I will be bold to ſay that your Lordſhip, and myſelf, through the Weakneſs of the Uſurpation, have, in our ſeperate Stations, acted as openly, and boldly, as ever the moſt Zealous could require at our hands. Your Lordſhip has, in Defiance of all the pretended Laws, opened a conſtant Chapel at the *Bath*; officiated there for Years as publickly as the Heretick Prieſts in their Churches; made numberleſs Converts in Contempt of their Magiſtracy, and preſerved all the Dignity of the Church, in the Land of Infidels. Your Progreſſes, ſince your Elevation to the Mitre, have been open; you have viſited your Flocks, and appear'd, in as publick a manner, exerciſing your Juriſdiction, as the Proteſtant Prelates themſelves. In my leſſer Sphere, I have acted with little *Eclat*, but great Succeſs, and may boaſt, within theſe five Years, in the Pariſhes of *St. George*, *St. Ann*, and *St. James's*, particularly, to have brought above two Thouſand ſtray'd Sheep back to the Flock: The Remiſsneſs of their Paſtors gave me great Advantages, and I found the poor Souls miſerably ignorant, and conſequently proper Objects of our Charity, and Inſtruction - - - For this I am rewarded. From this I hope for my further Well-being both here, and hereafter.

One Thing more I am commanded to acquaint your Lordſhip with, which you are deſired alſo to communicate to all ſincere Friends: The vaſt and oppreſſive Load of Debt, which His Majeſty's Subjects have long laboured under, has always afflicted him very much (for Rebels as they have been, he has always felt a Paternal Concern for the Undutiful Children: He has thought of many Ways of eaſing them; but, upon the moſt mature Conſideration, finds none ſo proper as an abſolute Spunge, that will certainly, at once take off the Load, and yet not leſſen the Credit; for as the Debt was contracted by thoſe, who had no Power to contract it, it ought not, it ſhould not, it cannot impugn, or ſhake the Credit of the true Owner. Put the

[illegible]

You are alſo to take Notice of [illegible] of the [illegible] —— For [illegible] the [illegible] has been wholly [illegible] and [illegible] to the [illegible] contriv'd with the one View of obtaining his [illegible] and [illegible] Majeſty [illegible] in their Exile: contrived to extirpate our Holy Religion; [illegible] con-trived to ſupport Uſurpation and Hereſy, and a Government equally deſtructive to [illegible] and his Church. Theſe are the Arguments you are to uſe, together with any other that your great Wiſdom can ſuggeſt.

Moſt of the Proceedings ſince the unfortunate Year 1688, are, and have, for [illegible] been under Conſideration. The numberleſs Grants of the different Uſurpers; the many Peerages, and other Honours, they have pretended to beſtow: And as moſt of theſe Favours have been ſhower'd down upon the undeſerving, the moſt inveterate Oppoſers of our Cauſe, the greateſt Supporters of Hereſy; moſt, if not all will meet with the *Fate* they deſerve.

You will ſee by the [illegible] herein ſend you, that our Declarations, Procla[illegible] &c. (for I ſend you quite the Marrow [illegible] with great Caution, and as little Latitud[illegible] where we offer moſt, if you examine, you [illegible] Words are ſubject to two Meanings, and ſometimes [illegible] —— For this we are obliged to the Pen of Father *Innys*, of the Society of *Jeſus*; who is an excellent Writer, and has, upon all Occaſions, been very ſerviceable to our Cauſe.

My good Lord, the Die is now caſt —— Our All is at Stake —— 'tis our dernier Effort —— We are to meet in Triumph, or Confuſion —— Our *Smithfield* Fires ſhall again blaze, or our Enemies are to tread upon our Necks ——

Exert yourſelf then, inflame your Friends, with a Zeal to deſtroy the Enemies of our Church and King, and to extirpate Hereticks and Traitors; declare to them what they are to do and what they are to have; enforce to them their

Duty

[illegible] Number, by their [illegible] let them [illegible] who are not with us, are against us [illegible] looked upon as such; in short, bid them [illegible] the Lord hath need of them.

Thus, my Lord, have I done according to the Royal Command I have received [illegible] Fidelity of the Messenger, this Letter will [illegible] hands; so begging, upon my Knees, your Lordship's Blessing, I am my Lord,

Your Lordship's

most Obedient

and Devoted Son,

[illegible] GRAHAM.